UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/672
6 June 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS AOUZOU STRIP OBSERVER GROUP

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 915 (1994) of 4 May 1994, by which the Council established the United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Group (UNASOG) and authorized the deployment of nine United Nations observers and six support staff for a single period of up to 40 days.

II. DEPLOYMENT OF UNASOG

2. The mandate of UNASOG was to observe the implementation of the agreement signed on 4 April 1994 at Surt (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) by the Governments of Chad and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya concerning the practical modalities for the implementation of the Judgment delivered by the International Court of Justice on 3 February 1994 (see S/1994/402 and S/1994/424). The agreement called for the withdrawal of the Libyan administration and forces from the Aouzou Strip and for the United Nations observers to establish that the withdrawal actually has been effected in accordance with article 1 thereof.

3. At the time of the adoption of resolution 915 (1994), the reconnaissance team, composed of five military personnel, which I had sent to the area to undertake a survey of the conditions on the ground (S/1994/512, paras. 7-11), became the advance party of the operation with Colonel Mazlan Bahamuddin (Malaysia) as Chief Military Observer. The other four military observers joined the mission on 12 May 1994. All military observers as well as most of the six international support staff were drawn from the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). The observers were made available by Bangladesh, Ghana, Honduras, Kenya, Malaysia and Nigeria.

4. Article 1 of the agreement signed on 4 April 1994 provided that operations for the withdrawal of the Libyan adminstration and forces shall commence on 15 April 1994. The reconnaissance team, which arrived in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on that date, monitored the withdrawal of Libyan forces until the arrival of UNASOG in the mission area.

III. LOCATION OF LIBYAN MILITARY FORCES WITHIN THE AOUZOU STRIP AND WITHDRAWAL SCHEDULE

5. After consultations between the reconnaissance team and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya/Chad mixed team, established pursuant to article 1 of the Agreement of 4 April 1994, a list comprising the locations of the Libyan forces deployed in the Aouzou Strip was agreed upon (see annex II.A). It was from these locations that withdrawals were to be effected. The Libya/Chad mixed team also agreed on a schedule for withdrawal and evacuation of the Libyan forces (see annex II.B). The withdrawal and evacuation of Libyan forces were carried out according to the schedule. Each time a withdrawal was effected a member of the Libyan team and of the Chadian team certified that such withdrawal had taken place. UNASOG was present for each withdrawal and witnessed the certification by the Chadian/Libyan teams. The parties agreed that all outstanding issues, including matters relating to the Aouzou base and Well 40 areas, would be settled within the framework of articles 6 and 7 of the agreement of 4 April 1994.

6. On 30 May 1994, Mr. Abderrahman Izzo Miskine, Minister of Interior and Security of Chad, and Mr. Mohamed Mahmud Al Hijazi, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice and Public Security of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, signed a Joint Declaration on behalf of their Governments stating that the withdrawal of the Libyan administration and forces from the Aouzou Strip had been effected as of that date (30 May 1994) to the satisfaction of both parties and monitored by UNASOG (see annex I). The Chief Military Observer of UNASOG affixed his signature to the Declaration as a witness.

IV. ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE IN THE AREAS FROM WHERE LIBYAN FORCES HAVE WITHDRAWN

7. As I stated in paragraph 17 of my previous report (S/1994/512), about 4,000 inhabitants in the areas from which Libyan forces have withdrawn had been reported to have expressed concern about their welfare after the withdrawal of Libyan administration and forces. A representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) visited the area from 19 to 24 May 1994 to assess the potential humanitarian dimensions of the situation. He reported that only a few families remained in the Aouzou village, since most of the inhabitants had moved to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The need for humanitarian assistance would have been acute and critical if the population had remained in the areas from which Libyan forces have withdrawn. If the Government of Chad, to whom these areas have reverted, decided to develop the areas as part of its overall economic development plan, an integrated area development approach aimed at ensuring provision of basic social services should be considered. The Government of Chad may therefore wish, in consultation with UNDP, to request a United Nations inter-agency mission to assess the needs and to formulate an integrated development programme for the Aouzou Strip which could also be used to mobilize financial resources for its implementation. The UNDP representative observed that, before commencing any development activities in the area, it would be imperative to complete the removal of land-mines in the entire region and repair the roads destroyed during the process of de-mining.

V. OBSERVATIONS

8. The Governments of Chad and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya agreed to submit their territorial dispute to the International Court of Justice for judicial settlement. The Court rendered a Judgment which the parties accepted and they requested the assistance of the United Nations in implementing the decision. The Security Council acted promptly in providing assistance to the two Governments. The accomplishment of the mandate of UNASOG amply demonstrates the useful role, as envisaged by the Charter, which the United Nations can play in the peaceful settlement of disputes when the parties cooperate fully with the Organization.

9. I should like to thank the Governments of Chad and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the cooperation they extended to UNASOG and for the spirit of friendship they exhibited towards each other during the operation. I call upon the two Governments to continue to abide by the agreement of 4 April 1994 as they proceed to strengthen their bilateral relations and to work together in developing cooperation in all fields for the mutual benefit of their people.

10. I wish to express my appreciation to the Chief Military Observer and all UNASOG personnel for having carried out their tasks with dedication in pursuance of the UNASOG mandate. UNASOG having successfully completed the task assigned to it by the Security Council in its resolution 915 (1994), departed from the area on 5 June 1994, and the mission may therefore be considered as terminated.

Annex I

Joint Declaration by the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Republic of Chad on the withdrawal of the Libyan administration and forces from the Aouzou Strip

Whereas, the International Court of Justice delivered on 3 February 1994 its Judgment on the territorial dispute between the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Republic of Chad,

And whereas, the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Republic of Chad signed on 4 April 1994 an Agreement concerning the practical modalities for the implementation of the International Court of Justice Judgment,

Now therefore, the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Republic of Chad hereby declare that the withdrawal of the Libyan administration and forces from the Aouzou Strip has been effected as of this day, thirtieth of May nineteen hundred ninety-four, to the satisfaction of both Parties and monitored by the United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Group.

Signed at Aouzou Village on this day, the thirtieth of May nineteen hundred ninety-four, corresponding to the nineteenth of Thou-Al-Hijjah, fourteen hundred and three.

For the Republic of Chad:

(Signed)
Abderrahman Izzo Miskine
Ministry of the Interior and Security

For the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya:

(Signed)
Mohamed Mahmud Al Hijazi
Secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice and Public Security

Witnessed by:

(Signed)
Colonel Mazlan Bahamuddin
Chief Military Observer
United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Group

Annex II

A. Location of Libyan military forces within the Aouzou Strip

Aouzou base

(a) Location: 22° 39′ N, 17° 46′ E
(b) Strength: battle group, air force elements

Cazandou

(a) Location: 21° 30′ N, 19° 00′ E
(b) Strength: 1 platoon, 1 troop engineers

Oumou

(a) Location: 21° 28′ N, 18° 02′ E
(b) Strength: one battle group

Oumshi

(a) Location: 21° 38′ N, 17° 45′ E
(b) Strength: one infantry company

Ras El Mia

(a) Location: 21° 45′ N, 15° 20′ E
(b) Strength: one combat team

Well 40

(a) Location: 22° 29′ N, 17° 58′ E
(b) Strength: one battle group

Passe de Korizo

(a) Location: 22° 20′ N, 16° 20′ E
(b) Strength: one section

Aouzou Village

(a) Location: 21° 50′ N, 17° 25′ E
(b) Strength: one battle group, plus ...

B. Withdrawal schedule

1. Schedule for the withdrawal of forces

Areas	Period of withdrawal
Oumou area	21-26 April 1994
Passe de Korizo	20-25 May 1994
Gate Oumshi site	28 April-1 May 1994
Ras El Mia site	22-28 May 1994
Cazandou site	24-29 May 1994
Aouzou Village site	30 May 1994

2. Schedule for evacuation of forces

Sites	Date of evacuation of the site
Oumou area	25 April 1994
Gate Oumshi site	30 April 1994
Passe de Korizo	25 May 1994 (amended to 26 May 1994)
Ras El Mia site	27 May 1994
Cazandou site	28 May 1994
Aouzou Village site	30 May 1994